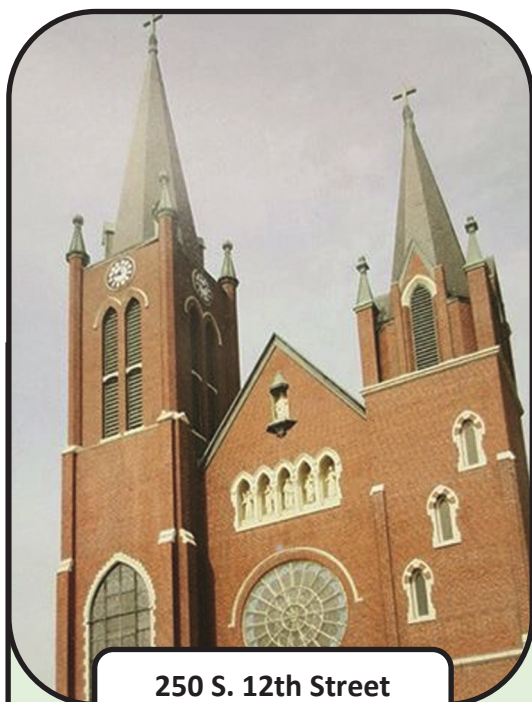


Saint Mary's

Saint Catharine of Siena Parish



250 S. 12th Street
Reading, PA 19602

ST. MARY'S REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 3:30 p.m.
Sunday : 10:30 a.m.

Sacraments

Reconciliation: Saturday, 2:45 -3:15 p.m. in the Church. Otherwise, by appointment only

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Brian M. Miller, M.A., Pastor
Rev. Van-Vien (JV) Nguyen, Parochial Vicar
Deacon John Stapleton
Deacon Gregory Schneider
Mrs. Marcella Kraycik, Principal
Rev. Msgr. Joseph P. T. Smith, Pastor Emeritus

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator:

Ms. Wendy S. Krisak, MA, NCC, LPC
Direct Line: (800) 791-9209
Office of Safe Environment: Pamela J. Russo, M.S.W, M.S.

Secretary, Youth Protection and Catholic Human Services

P.O. Box F, Allentown, PA 18105-1538
610-871-5200 ext. 2204
prusso@allentowndiocese.org



4975 Boyertown Pike
Reading, PA 19606

ST. CATHARINE'S REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 8:00 a.m.
Saturday: 4:30 p.m.
Sunday: 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m.
Daily: Monday - Friday - 7:15 a.m.

Sacraments Reconciliation: Saturday - 3:30 - 4:15 p.m. - in the Church otherwise, by appointment only.

PARISH CENTER: 4975 Boyertown Pike

Phone: 610-779-4005
Parish Website: www.scsreading.org
Parish Email: saintcatharineofreading@gmail.com

ST. CATHARINE'S SCHOOL: 2330 Perkiomen Avenue

Phone: 610-779-5810 • www.scsreading.org

PREP OFFICE: 2330 Perkiomen Avenue

Phone: 610-779-8535

PRE-SCHOOL:

Phone: 610-779-5810

Please mail all your correspondence to the Parish Center,
4975 Boyertown Pike, Reading, PA 19606

St. Catharine of Siena Parish Mission Statement

We, the people of St. Catharine of Siena Parish, as brothers and sisters in Christ guided by the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and inspired by the works of our patron saint proclaim a desire to grow in our Roman Catholic faith through holiness and a willingness to serve the members of our parish family and community.

Saint Mary's News

Saturday, December 28th - 3:30 p.m. - Alan Budgeon
Sunday, December 29th - 10:30 a.m. - Joseph Bender
Wednesday, January 1st - 9:00 a.m. - Marie R. Murray (25th Anniversary)
Saturday, January 4th - 3:30 p.m. - Regina Wrobel
Sunday, January 5th - 10:30 a.m. - Leon J. Zerkowski



Solemnity of Mary - Holy Day of Obligation
December 31st - 4:00 p.m.

January 1st
8:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m.

St. Mary's - 9:00 a.m.

Thank you from Father Miller & Father JV Nguyen to everyone who sent cards, greetings, gifts, and goodies. May God continue to bless you in the New Year!

All contributions for 2024 must be received by December 31, 2024 to be included on your statement. Thank you for your generosity during the past year. If contributions are received after December 31st they will be applied to your 2025 statement.

The Parish Center will reopen Thursday, January 2nd.



Patriotic Rosary

Thursday's 5:45 PM (Advent Time)
Church



A Recipe for a Happy New Year!

Take twelve months. Clean them thoroughly of all bitterness, hate, and jealousy. Make them just as fresh and clean as possible.

Now cut each month into twenty-eight, thirty, or thirty-one different parts, but don't make up the whole batch at once. Prepare it one day at a time out of these ingredients. Mix well into each day one part of faith, one part of patience, one part of courage, one part of work. Add to each day one part of hope, faithfulness, generosity, and kindness. Blend with one part prayer, one part meditation, and one good deed. Season the whole with a dash of good spirits, a sprinkle of fun, a pinch of play, and a cupful of good humor.

Pour all of this into a vessel of love. Cook thoroughly over a radiant joy, garnish with a smile, and serve with quietness, unselfishness and cheerfulness. You're bound to have a Happy New Year!

1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28: The reading teaches us that motherhood and life are a gift of God. The presence of children in a family signals the continuation of life and manifests the newness of God's love, which gives origin to ever new creatures.

1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24: Every family must be a mirror of the divine love because the root of every genuine love is God. Therefore, members of a family should deal lovingly with one another.

Lk 2:41-52: Jesus and His parents go to Jerusalem for the Passover. Upon returning, Jesus is separated from them. Mary and Joseph find Him in the temple teaching. When Mary asked why, Jesus replied that He must be doing His Father's work. Jesus returned with Mary and Joseph to Nazareth.

Today's Message: Family life is rooted in the unconditional love of God as witnessed by the Holy Family. Hannah and Elkanah offer their son, Samuel, to God in the Lord's temple. Mary and Joseph find Jesus in the temple. He returns to Nazareth, obedient to them.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

CHOIR REHEARSAL – 10:00 a.m. – Meeting Room

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30

NO EUCHARISTIC ADORATION & NO CONFESSIONS

PARISH CENTER CLOSED

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2

PRAY THE ROSARY – 6:45 a.m.

SIENA STITCHERS – 10:00 a.m. – Meeting Room

OCIA – 6:00 p.m. – Meeting Room

PATRIOTIC ROSARY – 6:00 p.m. – Church

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

PRAY THE ROSARY – 7:30 a.m.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

CHOIR REHEARSAL – 10:00 a.m. – Meeting Room

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

8:00 Lorraine V. Quinn

4:30 The O'Malley Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

7:30 Salvatore Corso (11th Anniversary)

9:30 Sean J. Wertman (10th Anniversary)

11:30 Martin Eisenhower

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30

9:00 Diane DeCarlo

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

9:00 Raymond McFadden

4:00 Joseph Capilo

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1

8:00 John Rundle

10:00 James Peck

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2

7:15 Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3

7:15 George Kostick, Sr.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

8:00 Michael Bobb

4:30 Bill Abramowicz

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

7:30 Samuel Russo

9:30 Kathleen Kennedy Donohue

11:30 Virginia Houck & Family

Scripture Readings

For the Week of December 29, 2024

Sunday

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

Monday

1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Lk 2:36-40

Tuesday

1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13; Jn 1:1-18

Wednesday

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

Num 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5,6,8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Thursday

Memorial of Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen,

Bishops and Doctors of the Church

1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 1:19-28

Friday

1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6; Jn 1:29-34

Saturday

Memorial of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9; Jn 1:35-42

Sunday

The Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-

12



For the week of December 29th
The Sanctuary Candle
will burn in
Loving Memory of

St. Catharine's Church - Kathleen Zagar

St. Mary's - Vince Skimski

THE HOLY FAMILY

PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

Monday 12/30	Rev. Paul DaDamio
Tuesday 12/31	Rev. Harold F. Dagle
Wednesday 1/1	Rev. Msgr. Joseph A. DeSantis
Thursday 1/22	Rev. Msgr. Edward R. Domin
Friday 1/3	Rev. Bruno Dongo, A.J.
Saturday 1/4	Rev. Anthony M. Drouncheck

Gethsemane's Annual Mass of Remembrance commemorating all of those interred or entombed in both Gethsemane and St Mary's Cemeteries in 2024, will be held on Sunday January 19, 2025. Mass will be held in the Chapel of the Resurrection at 3pm.

Kennedy House. Want to **volunteer** and help those struggling? It is St. Catharine's turn to run the **Kennedy House** in Reading. We would love to have you come and help out either **Saturday, January 18th and or Sunday, January 19th** or both days! Times are from 9:30-2 each day. Please call, text, or email if you can help - Sara Miller 484-459-0270 or sk1699@hotmail.com. Hope to see you there.

Also, if you are unable to help but would be willing to **donate** food or other supplies we would need, please contact me as well. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0848ACA823A4FA7-53411942-kennedy>

END-OF-YEAR GIVING OPPORTUNITIES with PLANNED GIVING: -Donations of appreciated stocks and IRA rollovers -Consider increasing your weekly or monthly donations -Include the parish in your last will and testament -Include the parish in memorial donations at the passing of a loved one -Include "in memory" gifts to the parish in your own pre-planning.

SAVE THE DATE

We Still Do... and Always Will

Saturday, February 8, 2025 at 4:30 Mass
St. Catharine of Siena Roman Catholic Church

Look for sign up forms in January

If you'd like to help plan the event, please contact Lisa Siciliano at 610-781-4064 or by e-mail at wdy561@yahoo.com

Renewal of Wedding Vows Ceremony & Dinner in the Social Hall



The ServSafe® Food Safety Advantage

The SCS Knights of Columbus will be hosting a ServSafe Food Certification course at the St. Catharine's Social Hall on January 18th, 2025. The course will be administered by a certified ServSafe Instructor. The certification program consists of a morning session (starting at 9:00 AM) and concludes with the completion of a certification test that afternoon. Each participant will receive the required book, certified instruction for the day, and the certification test. **The cost is \$100 per participant and must be paid in advance to the Knights of Columbus Council 14880.** This covers the cost of the book and the certification test fee. **To ensure timely receipt of information material to be ordered for the course, registration with the SCS Knights must occur by end of day 12/31/24.** For questions/registration, contact Tom Trainer at ThomasA.Trainer@gmail.com or phone 484-333-4312.

The ServSafe® program is developed by the National Restaurant Association with the help of foodservice industry experts. Years of experience and inside knowledge of the foodservice industry are at the core of the course, exam and materials provided. The food safety experts prepare you to handle food sanitation risks because they have direct experience with it. The ServSafe® materials help define food safety best practices because they involve specialists from regulatory agencies, academia, and the foodservice industry to create those practices. ServSafe® materials reflect the latest science, research and the FDA Food Code.

If your SCS Church organization serves food at any events/fundraisers, consider having a representative take the course and obtain certification to ensure healthy and safe food preparation practices are understood and administered at your events.

St. Catharine of Siena School
Faith-Filled Education with Room to Explore
Watch your child grow in a vibrant community of faith & experiential learning

ENROLLING NOW 2025-2026

APPLY NOW PK - 8TH
VISIT: SCSREADING SCHOOL.ORG
OR CALL 610.779.5810

Almighty and Everlasting God, the eternal salvation of those who believe in You, hear us on behalf of Your servants who are sick, for whom we humbly beg the help of your mercy, so that, being restored to health, they may render thanks to you in your Church. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

a time to be born... Recently Baptized:

Please pray for our sick & soldiers in harm's way: Karin Acuna, Joseph Albert, Richard Abelt, Carl Andrzejewski, Anthony Antonucci, Elizabeth Ashton, Baby Lanzo, Mike Bailey, Joe Barker, Melody Bechtel, Gene Bellus, Dolores Bertoti, Irene Bezak, Joseph Bezak, Jason Beshore, JoAnne Biscanti, Jodi Bixler, Susan Bolognese, Jim Boris, Michele Boucher, Joanne Bowman, Katie Briggs, Frank Broga, Sophia Broga, Paul Brooke, Renee Brzostek, Connie Burkhart, Maria Bunch, Marvin Bush, Pauline Cappel, Therese (Brenner) Cooney, Richard Cunnius, Larry Curtin, Cyril Danko, Tamara Danko, Alivia Devlin, Jennifer & Thomas Devlin, George Dietrich, Roseanne Dougherty, Andy Dykie, Gina Ebright, Dr. Elizabeth Edmunds, Charles Elchlepp, Marian Ertel, Joe & Theresa Essig, Robert Flipping, Jocelyn Franek, Abby Franey, Chris Fry, Geraldine Gamby, Michael Gantert, Todd Gladfelder, Theresa Grabowski, Loretta Greely, Clara Hartline, Ruth Ann Hass, Al Heck, William F. Hedl, Wayne & Mary Hedrick, Robyn Hefferan, John Heft, Theresa Heltzinger, Patricia Herber, Curtis S. Hill, Jesse Hill, Roger Hilton, Michael Hivner, Chuck Holt, Margaret Iuso, Michael Jurasinski, Katelynn Solecki Kajunski, Krissy Kelly, Maryanne Kenton, Lynn Keys, Cindy Kohl, Rev. David Kohut, OFM, John Kompa, Jackie Kopicki, Deb Kothgasser, Rosemarie Kovacs, Dorothy Kulak, Walter LaSota, Darryl Larish, William Lawson, Pat & Fred Lenich, Melanie Lintz, Jane Lubas, Joan Lubas, Aleigha Manderbach, Angela Marroccoli, Rocco Martinuzzi, Greg & Kevin Masters, Daniel Matz, Cindy McConnell, Peggy McConnell, Mary Rita McFadden, Tim McNeil, Katherine Miceli, Lannie Milillo, William Nelson, Jerome Nigh, Maddie Nordhoy, Angela Biscanti Ondik, Peggy Pacharis, Frank Pingitore, Donald Pisker, David Plumley, Chuck Rackie, Lorraine Ransom, Nada Rathkey, Phyllis Rathman, Rich Readinger, Peggy Reid, Virginia Rivera, Aneliese & Raven Robinson, David Samsel, Barbara Santoro, Anne Schaeffer, Barbara Schock, Edward Senkowski, Bob Shardin, Earl Sheetz, Gabbie Sierra, Joan Skoczen, Tyler Skoczen, Anne Smith, Harvey Snyder, Louise Souders, Barbara Spatz, Andy Strangarity, Earl Suchomelly, Thomas Sword, Sean Tipping, Kimberly Trigstead, Antoinette (Honey) Tutlane, Richard Uliasz, Janet Ustaszewski, Rex Voelker, Chad Vogel, John Vogel, Alexandra Wachowicz, Dave Walter, Mark Walter, Pam Weber, Lyn Weidenhammer, Bill Wertz, Frank White, Ann Marie Zawislak, Mary Ann Zerkowski, Dan Zielinski, John Ziemba, Mollie Ziemba, Mary Ann Zimmerman **A Time to die: Nikki Lynn Kells, (sister of Tiffani Mosser) & all victims of war, and the 4,100 daily abortions. Ecclesiastes 3:11**

To have someone from your family enrolled on our prayer list, please call the Parish Center. Parishioners who are sick or hospitalized, in a rehabilitation facility or at home wishing to receive the Holy Eucharist may call the Parish at 610-779-4005.

We pray for the Gift of Peace in the world and the safety of those working for peace through the military services, especially: First Lt. David J. Wentling, IV, Second Lt. Nicholas A. Wentling, Cpts. Juliana & Sean Coleman, Petty Officer Matthew J. Dobroskey, Jr., Cpl. Bruce Bogertey, SPC, Alex Heintz, Captain Chelsea Pellicano, LTJG Nicholas Tomczyk, Captain Steffan Lis, MD, SPC, Dylan Einfalt, Airman 1st Class Kevin Hodgson, Sgt. Madison Straka, First Lt. Devon Schoonover, Sgt. Mackenzie Adame, Staff Sgt. Brian Perrotto, Captain Anthony Bennett, Tom Bristol, Danny Bristol, Commander Daniel M. Simon, Staff Sgt. Michael Porcaro, Staff Sgt. Zak Ribble, TSgt. Timothy Hinsey, Thomas Bristol, Col. Patrick Sullivan, Second Lt. Joshua Kline, Captain Kevin Madary, Sgt. First Class Andrew Spies, Lt. Col. Jeffrey Brizek, Warrant Officer Gregory Van Horn, Major Jeffrey Van Horn, Zachary Deissler, Amy & Gregory Boland, Lt. Col. Adam Sawyer, Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Sola, Lt. Cdr. Mathew Stuber, Sgt. Nathan Essig. Please contact the Parish Office with your prayer requests or email them to dsitler@comcast.net.

50 Plus News

Please call, Acting President Bev Gallo for any 50 Plus Club inquiries. Her phone number is 610-763-7058. You can see us on Facebook for additional information.

Meetings

January 8, 2025: Pat White will review the trips for 2025. Refreshments will be served.

February 5, 2025: Matthew Dudds will sing songs and tell stories for Valentine's Day. Refreshments will be served.

Please call Pat White at 610-582-1437 or Bev Bard at 610-763-5654. For trip information.

Please call Maria Bunch at 610-914-7005 with the names of members who are sick or who have died.

We always welcome new members and encourage guests to join us at any of our meetings. Our meetings are held at 1:00 PM on the first Wednesday of most months at St Catharine Social Hall. There will be no meetings during the special events months of April, August, and December.

Final Reminder: Pick 3 Lottery Ca\$h Calendar!

It's your last chance to support St. Catharine of Siena School and enter to win daily cash prizes! Calendars are \$20 each and proceeds directly benefit our St. Catharine of Siena School. Limited calendars remain—don't miss out!

Contact scssschoolboard@gmail.com now!

There will be no Adoration or confessions on Monday, December 30th.

Are you interested in helping to develop, promote and carry out activities at St Catharine's which are Christ centered, family focused, with an eye on the eternal, that will enhance parish life? Contact Deanna Stratton (strattonmd@aol.com) or Lisa Ianni (llianni@verizon.net) to learn more.



Millions of Monicas – Praying With Confidence For Our Children

Many of us have children who are struggling to embrace their Catholic faith or have left the church entirely. Like St. Monica, as mothers we persevere in prayer for their joyful return to full unity with the Catholic Church. We are not a support group or a self-help group. No sensitive information is shared. We believe that by coming together monthly, uniting our hearts and voices praying together, we can bring strength and joy to each other. We want to encounter God through prayer for ourselves and our children.

Join with other mothers, grandmothers, step-mothers, Godmothers, etc., as we pray to grow in holiness and humility, and for our children's faithful return to the Catholic Church.

We will have three separate meetings held on different days and times with the hope that if one meeting is not convenient, there is another for you. We will meet on the first Wednesday of each month (with the exception of 1/1/25 that will be held on 1/8/25 only) from 7p - 8p. We'll have another on the second Saturday of the month from 10:15 - 11:15 a.m. We will also meet on the third Wednesday of each month from 9a - 10a. **All meetings will be held in the Church.**

For more information please visit www.millionsofmonicas.com

DID YOU KNOW? - Through the Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and the Pennsylvania Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC), businesses and individuals can lower their tax bills by donating to private schools, scholarship organizations, pre-K programs, and other educational enrichment initiatives. The bulk of the tax credits — \$110 million per year — are reserved for donors that give to scholarship organizations, which provide financial aid to children attending K-12 private schools. The program also sets aside a small amount of tax credits for donors that give to pre-k scholarship funds. At Saint Catharine of Siena School, our EITC and OSTC program plays an essential role in the school's financial strategy as well as the fulfillment of our mission. Saint Catharine of Siena School is seeking donors to participate in the EITC/OSTC program to alleviate the burden of financial aid on our operating budget AND to give as many children access to a Catholic, Saint Catharine of Siena education as possible. If you are interested in learning more about this tax credit scholarship program, please contact Mrs. Stephanie Conlon, SCS Advancement Director @ 610-779-5810.

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS, CONTACT PERSONS AND RESOURCES

Altar Servers – (Father JV Nguyen – 610-779-4005)
 American Heritage Girls - (Julia Wright - 610-370-9290)
 Boy Scout- (Terry Wade - 610-478-1200)
 Bereavement Support - (Judy Cameron- judyacameron@comcast.net)
 Catholic Charities - (610-376-7144)
 Catholic Soup Kitchen (Sara Miller - 610-404-1590)
 Choir- (Dave Kostival – 484-332-8695)
 Church Library - (Genevieve Samolewicz - 610-779-1660)
 Cub Scouts – (610-301-1321– William Lander)
 Cursillo – (Bill McMahon 610-779-8654)
 CYO President - Keith Lawlor - 267-879-7220
 Disability Advocates -(Carol McCullough 610-370-1660)
 Eucharistic Ministers-(Deacon Greg Schneider - 610-929-0386)
 Exeter Food Bank - (Jim Bucciaglia - 610-698-8131)
 Girl Scouts - (Adrienne Evans - 908-872-6105)
 Guitar Choir – (Marci Zambito 610-779-8535)
 Home School Organization- (Elizabeth Kieffer - 610-310-7842)
 Knights of Columbus - (Tom Rochowicz - 610-779-2851)
 Lectors – (John Vogel 610-779-6287)
 Maintenance - (Elisha Robinson - (610-779-4005)
 Marriage Preparation - (610-779-4005)
 Ministers of Hospitality- (Deacon John Stapleton 610-779-4005)
 Parish Nurses - mjauman@verizon.net
 Parish School – (Mrs. Marcella Kracyk - 610-779-5810)
 Saint Catharine's Pre-School – (610-779-5810)
 PREP (CCD) – (Coordinator - Marci Zambito,610-779-8535)
 Protecting God's Children Coordinator - (Marci Zambito - 610-779-8535)
 PRO LIFE /LIFE RUNNERS– Sharon D'Andrea - 610-507-9267
 OCIA – (Deacon John Stapleton) - (610-779-4005)
 Religious Store - (Mike Wertz - 610-207-7517)
 Saint Vincent de Paul Society- (Carol Cinelli) 610-779-4005
 School Board - Mindy Anderson - (484– 332-3292)
 Scrip – (Cristina Schmehl - 610-779-1513)
 Senior Citizen Group (50+Club)- (Bev Gallo - 610-763-7058)
 Siena Stitchers - (Anita Barber - 610-779-1571 & Barbara Grim - 610-779-8346)
 Youth Group - (Marci Zambito 610-779-8535)
 Parish Office- (610-779-4005)
 Church Website - <http://www.scsreading.org/scsparish/wp/>
Saint Catharine's School - 610-779-5810